## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 151611Z MAR 74 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4660 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 1722

**EXDIS** 

DEPARTMENT FOR HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT FROM SHERER

MOSCOW FOR STOESSEL

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: CSCE: BASKET III PREAMBULAR LANGAUGE

REF: GENEVA 1705

- 1. I INVITE YOUR ATTENTION TO REFTEL REPORT OF MY
  CONVERSATION WITH SOVIET CSCE DELEGATION MARCH 13 THAT
  SUGGESTS SOVIETS MAY BE PREPARED TO RESOLVE PROBLEM OF
  PREAMBULAR LANGUAGE OF CSCE BASKET III ON BASIS OF
  HELSINKI FORMULA. THIS, AS YOU RECALL, ENTAILED A CROSS
  REFERENCE IN BASKET III PREAMBLE TO PRINCIPLES IN BASKET
  I. I WOULD UNDERLINE, HOWEVER, THAT MY SOVIET RESPONDENT
  SAID THAT THEY COULD NOT NOW ACCEPT SUCH A FORMULA, THOUGH
  HE THOUGHT THEY EVENTUALLY COULD.
- 2. I BELIEVE THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT, REFLECTING AN EVOLUTION IN SOVIET THINKING ALONG LINES WE HAVE LONG FAVORED.
- 3. YOU SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT AT MARCH 15 MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON BASKET III, FINNS ADVANCED PORTIONS OF A TEXT, PROVIDED TO US ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS, THAT WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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EXPLICITLY PROPOSE HELSINKI FORMULA AS A COMPROMISE. FINNS

HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY CHECKED WITH SOVIET DELEGATION AND OTHERS IN COURSE OF DEVELOPING THIS APPROACH, AND WE DOUBT THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO ADVANCE IT WITHOUT ASSURANCE OF EVENTUAL SOVIET ACCEPTANCE.

4. ALL OF THIS APPEARS TO AUGUR POSSIBLE PROGRESS ON THE BASKET III PREAMBULAR ISSUE IN THE PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AHEAD. DALE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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